



**NJ FFA ASSOCIATION, INC.  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
PO Box 330  
TRENTON, NJ 08625**

*In Cooperation with New Jersey Department of Education*

Basic Rules and Information

**PREPARED 3-5 MINUTE PUBLIC SPEAKING EVENT\***

1. Contestants may choose any current subject for their speeches which is of an agricultural character (nature) and which is of general interest to the public. Official judges of any FFA Public Speaking Event shall disqualify a contestant if he or she speaks on a non-agricultural subject.
2. There will be one event. The three to five minute contest is open to all 9th and 10th grade FFA members. (The six to eight minute event is open to all 12th grade or less FFA members and will follow National FFA Rules)\* A first place winner may compete in a particular event only once. There will be no competition above the state level in the three to five minute classification.
3. Each contestant's manuscript will be the result of the student's own efforts. It is expected that the contestants will take advantage of all available training facilities in their local schools in developing their speaking abilities. Facts and working data may be secured from any authoritative source.
4. All events should give credit to others where any direct quotes, phrases or special dates are used in the manuscript, in order not to be guilty of plagiarism.
5. A bibliography of references must be included for all speeches regardless of event or length. Use the following sample.

Bibliography
Borlaug, Norman. "Feeding the World." <u>Farm Industry News</u> . November 1992, pp 21-22.
National Research Council (NRC). (1988). <u>Understanding Agriculture: New Directions for Education</u> . Washington, D.C.: National Academy Press.
Romans, J.R., Costello, W.J., Carlson, C.W., Greaser, M.L. & Jones, K.W. (1994) <u>The Meat We Eat</u> . (13th ed.) Danville, IL: Interstate.

\*NOTE: The 6-8 minute prepared speech will follow rules and guidelines outlined in National FFA Career Development Event Book.

6. The event is open only to students who are enrolled in Agricultural Education during the current calendar year. When selected, contestants **must be active members** of a chartered FFA Chapter in good standing with the State Association of FFA Chapters and the National Organization. (Contestants' dues must have been paid prior to competition.)
7. A contestant must have competed in the state preliminary event held at state convention in order to compete in the final event.
8. The top two individuals in each room will move on and compete in the final event. **Only one competitor from a chapter may compete at the preliminary and state event.** Chapters should have a local competition to select best contestants.
9. The contestant shall supply **four** typewritten double spaced copies of the presentation to the Office of Agricultural Education by the date specified on the current State Association Calendar of Events. The judges will read and grade content and composition of speeches and record their judgment on a score sheet prior to the event. Speeches must have cover page including 6 parts:

<p style="text-align: center;">The Biotechnology of Agriculture</p> <p style="text-align: center;">by James A. Smith Chapter, State</p> <p style="text-align: center;">for National FFA Prepared Public Speaking Career Development Event 1996</p>
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10. Awards for the three to five minute public speaking event donated by the N.J. Farm Bureau are:
  - 1st \$50.00 Gold Emblem and Plaque\*
  - 2nd \$30.00 Silver Emblem
  - 3rd \$25.00 Bronze Emblem

\*First Place State Plaques Sponsored by the NJ FFA Foundation.
11. A contestant shall wear the official FFA dress as described in the FFA Manual.

12. Contestants under **no** circumstances should read their presentations. Contestants may use note cards while speaking, but deductions in scoring will be made if this practice detracts from the presentation. Major emphasis is placed on delivery of the production rather than the delivery of manuscript word for word. It is very important that the speakers know their topic.
13. The order of presentation in an event shall be determined by drawing of lots. Applause shall be withheld until all contestants have spoken. Courtesy corps will not allow guests to enter the room while speakers are presenting.
14. The contestants in the three to five minute event shall speak between three and five minutes.
15. A timekeeper shall be designated who will record the time used by each contestant in delivering the speech, noting under time or overtime, if any, for which deductions will be made. Deductions of 20 points per minute or major fraction thereof over or under the allotted time will be made from the score of each judge.
16. Three competent and impartial persons will be selected to judge the event. At least one judge will have a knowledge of agriculture.

**NJ JUDGE'S SCORE SHEET**  
**3-5 Minute FFA Public Speaking Event**

**Part I: For Scoring, Contest and Composition:**

ITEM TO BE SCORED	POINTS ALLOWED	POINTS AWARDED CONTESTANT					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Content of the Manuscript	200						
2. Composition of the Manuscript	100						
Score on written production <b>TOTAL PART I</b>	300						

**Part II: For Scoring Delivery of the Production:**

ITEM TO BE SCORED	POINTS ALLOWED	POINTS AWARDED CONTESTANT					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Voice	150						
2. Stage presence	150						
3. Power of expression	200						
4. General effect	200						
Score on delivery <b>TOTAL PART II</b>	700						

**Part III: For Computing the Results of the Contest:**

ITEM TO BE SCORED	POINTS ALLOWED	POINTS AWARDED CONTESTANT					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Score on written production	300						
2. Score on delivery	700						
<b>Total Part I &amp; II</b>	1000						
* LESS OVERTIME DEDUCTIONS, FOR EACH MIN. OR MAJOR FRACTION THEREOF (3- 5 MINS.)	-20						
* LESS UNDERTIME DEDUCTIONS, FOR EACH MIN. OR MAJOR FRACTION (3-5 MINS.)	-20						
<b>GRAND TOTAL:</b>							
FINAL PLACING OF CONTESTANTS							

Judge: \_\_\_\_\_